

FAS-930

(08-26-03)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

**TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE (TAA) FOR FARMERS
PETITION FOR CERTIFICATION AND ELIGIBILITY FOR A GROUP OF PRODUCERS**

NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the following information is the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers, (Pub. L. 107-210). The information will be used to determine program eligibility. Furnishing the requested information is voluntary. Failure to furnish the requested information will result in denial of program benefits. This information may be provided to other agencies.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0551-0040. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 6 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO THE ADDRESS LISTED BELOW.**

Please complete all requested information in this form and return it to the following address or fax to (202) 720-0876.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Import Policies and Programs Division/FAS
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Stop 1021
Washington, DC 20250-1021

If you need assistance, telephone (202) 720-2916 or
e-mail your questions to:
trade.adjustment@fas.usda.gov.

1. Name of Authorized Representative or Primary Contact Wilma Anderson, Executive Director		2. Name and Business Address (Including City, State, and Zip Code) The Texas Shrimp Association P.O. Box 1020 Aransas Pass, Tx 78335	
3. Telephone Number (Including Area Code) 361/758-5024			
4. Fax Number (Including Area Code) 361/758-5853		5. E-Mail Address Texasshrimpassoc@cs.com	
6. This petition is made on behalf of the following producers: <i>(Use separate sheet for additional producers)</i>			
A. Name of Producers	B. Mailing Address	C. Telephone No. (Including Area Code)	D. E-Mail Address
	Please see attached list		

7. COMMODITY INFORMATION:

A. Description of the raw (excludes processed) agricultural commodity: (e.g., fresh raspberries) fresh or frozen shell-on shrimp		B. Commodity's Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) Number (HTS can be found at: http://www.fas.usda.gov/ustradel) Nine HTS numbers include 0306.13.0003 through 0306.13.0027. Please see attached documentation report, page 1 of 17 for a detailed review.	
C. This petition is for the most recent marketing year for the commodity beginning in January, 2002 and ending December, 2002 (month/year) (month/year)			
D. Check whether the certification is to cover a commodity produced nationally or in an "impacted" area (state or states): <input type="checkbox"/> National <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State(s) (list): Texas			

orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

8. If Item 7D "National" is checked, provide the national average annual price for the most recent marketing year and the 5 preceding marketing years. If Item 7D "State(s)" is checked to indicate that the petition is for an impacted area, provide the relevant average price for the most recent marketing year and the 5 preceding years, and specify the months being averaged if the price is for less than 12 months (seasonal price).

(NOTE: National price data is available for many raw agricultural commodities from the Department's National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS) at: www.usda.gov/nass.)


A. Marketing Year	B. Average Annual Price				
Most recent: 2002	\$ 2.96 / lb.				
Provide prices for the 5 years prior to the most recent marketing years. Beginning with the most recent.	C. 5-Year Average Annual Price				
	1 Year ago	2 Years ago	3 Years ago	4 Years ago	5 Years ago
	\$ 3.58 / lb.	\$ 4.59 / lb.	\$ 4.28 / lb.	\$ 3.60 / lb.	\$ 4.43 / lb.

9. Basis for request for adjustment assistance. Please explain or attach any documents, which show how increased imports have affected the national price of your product during the most recent marketing year. In your description include any other factors which may also have contributed to lower producer prices.

For a detailed review encompassing Sections 7, 8, and 9 please see the appended report entitled "Documentation to Support a Petition from the Texas Shrimp Industry for Certification and Eligibility to the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture" prepared by Michael G. Haby, Professor and Extension Economist, Department of Agricultural Economics, Texas Cooperative Extension, Sea Grant College Program, Texas A&M University, 17 p.

Much of the information in the aforementioned report can be found in two earlier reports that are also appended to this application form. Titles of these reports are:

- (1) "Establishing Wild, Domestic Shrimp as a Premium Choice in the American Marketplace with a Verifiable, Quality Management System", prepared by M.G. Haby, R.J. Miget, L.L. Falconer, and G.L. Graham for the NOAA Fisheries Shrimp Industry Business Plan, released as a contribution to the Extension Economics Staff Paper Series in September, 2003, 12 p. and
- (2) "A Review of Current Conditions in the Texas Shrimp Industry, an Examination of Contributing Factors, and Suggestions for Remaining Competitive in the Global Shrimp Market", prepared by M.G. Haby, R.J. Miget, L.L. Falconer, and G.L. Graham, originally released as a contribution to the Extension Economics Staff Paper Series in July, 2002, and subsequently released by the Sea Grant College Program at Texas A&M University as TAMU-SG-03-701 with final, year-end 2001 information in January, 2003, 26 p..

10A. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRIMARY CONTACT 	10B. TITLE Executive Director -- The Texas Shrimp Association	10C. DATE SIGNED September 30, 2003
11A. SIGNATURE OF FAS REPRESENTATIVE	11B. TITLE	11C. DATE



Sea Grant

Marine Advisory Service

Texas A&M University Sea Grant College Program • Texas Cooperative Extension • The Texas A&M University System

Texas A&M Agricultural Research and Extension Center
10345 Agnes St.
Corpus Christi, Tx 78406
Tel: 361/265-9203
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E-mail: m-haby@tamu.edu

September 29, 2003

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Import Policies and Programs Division/FAS
1400 Independence Ave., S.W. – Stop 1021
Washington, D.C. 20250-1021

Dear Sir;

Texas is blessed with a relatively large commercial shrimp industry that has historically produced 33¢ out of every dollar's worth of domestically-harvested shrimp. The state has various fisheries trade associations that work on behalf of their seafood-linked membership, but not all operators choose to be represented by these associations. As notice circulated about the possibility of funds available for commercial fishermen through the Trade Adjustment Assistance program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture, several trade associations and port-specific producer groups asked for my help in documenting industry conditions. This letter and the various attachments that accompany it comprise that assistance. Despite the operational differences between bay and offshore shrimp fishermen and the philosophical differences between members and non-members of Texas' seafood trade associations, my assistance for this task is a "one size fits all" approach. Should you receive multiple applications, I would expect that this letter and the three attachments enumerated at the end of this letter will be appended to each of them.

I have worked as an educator of and an advisor to the seafood industry for twenty-six years. My colleagues and I have conducted numerous applied research projects for the Texas shrimp industry. In addition, we have prepared a number of reports, papers, and publications that address a variety of topics germane to the harvest sector. These include (a) periodically quantifying shortfalls in shrimp production, (b) enumerating the results of a twelve-year standardized performance analysis of the offshore trawler fleet, and (c) assessing the economic effects of assorted fisheries management measures such as the Texas Closure and the Southern Shrimp Zone.

Our work exploring the root causes for the current economic woes in the domestic shrimp industry began in April, 2002 at an emergency meeting called to address what many industry leaders saw as a fundamental change in the shrimp production and processing business. Leadership of the Texas Shrimp Association asked us to describe what was happening in the global shrimp arena, and enumerate how decisions made half a world away could affect local, dockside (ex-vessel) shrimp prices. We prepared a report entitled *"A Review of Current Conditions in The Texas Shrimp Industry, an Examination of Contributing Factors, and Suggestions for Remaining Competitive in the Global Shrimp Market"* that was used by members of the worldwide shrimp industry from Brownsville, Texas to Bangkok, Thailand (enclosed). This report was well-received by domestic producers and processors, the National Fisheries Institute, the trade press (*National Fisherman*), the Global Aquaculture Alliance, and even foreign shrimp culturists and processors. One of the more important components of that report was our review of how the combination of differences in food safety standards and oversight between the E.U. and the U.S., a changing tariff structure in the E.U. for some Southeast Asian shrimp exporters, and currency exchange rates have combined to direct the flow of shrimp from producing to consuming countries.

In August, 2002 as NOAA Fisheries pondered what assistance it could provide to the struggling shrimp industry, I was asked to contribute my ideas for inclusion in a "Shrimp Industry Business Plan" that, when funded and implemented, would help domestic producers, processors, and marketers regain a competitive position in our domestic market. This invited contribution is entitled *"Establishing Wild, Domestic Shrimp as a Premium Choice in the American Marketplace with a Verifiable, Quality Management System"* (enclosed). It is also a contribution to the Extension Economics Staff Paper Series within the Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University.

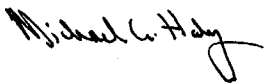
As I read the materials outlining the information needs of the Trade Adjustment Assistance program, I realized that much of the requested documentation already existed, either within the reports mentioned above, or in the supportive working files used to prepare them. For example, one of the major objectives in this past summer's paper was to examine the composition of supplies to the U.S. shrimp market between 1997 and 2001. As stated in the report:

"Initially, the classification criteria of source (e.g., U.S. landings or imports) and production method (e.g., wild-harvested or farm-raised) are used to subdivide the domestic shrimp market into three primary components: (a) wild-harvested, domestic landings, (b) wild-harvested imports, and (c) farm-raised imports. This particular assessment quantifies the specific contribution to supplies made by each component and pinpoints the sources of growth in the American shrimp market. Subsequent analysis focuses strictly on the imported fraction of the U.S. shrimp supply and examines the volume of imports by (a) shrimp-exporting country and (b) the various market forms commonly exported to the U.S."

Thus, our work this past summer on the Shrimp Industry Business Plan can be used to document the size of the cultured, imported fraction through time. This should address the requirement that commercial fishermen demonstrate the impact that farm-raised imports have had upon the value of their catches. The broader objective is to provide the computations and technical documentation specified in the FAS-930 petition application as well as assorted background information necessary to consider the petition from the Texas shrimp industry. All of this information is summarized in the enclosed report entitled *"Documentation to Support a Petition from the Texas Shrimp Industry for Certification and Eligibility to the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture."*

Please contact me if you need additional clarification or background information.

Best regards,



Michael G. Haby
Professor and Extension Economist – Seafood

MGH/mgh

Letter: d:\cabinet\fishecon\sfd_prs\USDA_TAA\FAS_cover-letter.wpd

Enclosures: d:\cabinet\fishecon\sfd_prs\USDA_TAA\TAA-documentation_Texas-shrimp-industry.pdf
d:\cabinet\fishecon\sfd_prs\Quality\NOAA-Shrimp-Industry-Business-Plan_Quality-Management.pdf
d:\cabinet\fishecon\sfd_prs\Updated_Shrimp_Industry_Report.pdf